



Related Medlearn Matters Article #: MM3481

Date Posted: 3/21/2005

Related CR #: 3481

Implementation of the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) National Abstract File for Purchased Diagnostic Tests and Interpretations

Key Words

ViPS, MPFS, Diagnostic, Testing, Abstract, MM3481, CR3481, Laboratories, HCPCS, MPFS

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, laboratories, and independent diagnostic testing facilities

Key Points

- The effective date of instruction is April 1, 2005.
- CR 3481 implements a national abstract file of the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) containing HCPCS codes billable as a purchased diagnostic test/interpretation for every locality throughout the country.
- Medicare carriers using the ViPS Medicare Part B system to process claims will not implement this change at this time.
- Suppliers, including laboratories, physicians, and independent diagnostic testing facilities, must bill their local carrier for purchased diagnostics tests and interpretations, regardless of the location where the service was furnished.
- The abstract file for purchased diagnostic tests/interpretations may not include all diagnostic services that may be purchased.
- Suppliers may request to add other HCPCS codes that are billable as purchased services to this file by sending a note to CMS at the following address:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Centers for Medicare Management/Provider Billing Group/Division of Supplier Claims Processing
7500 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21244
- CMS will review these requests periodically to determine whether code additions or deletions are needed, and will make updates to the abstract file in conjunction with the MPFS quarterly releases.

- The billing physicians/suppliers are responsible for ensuring that the physician or supplier that furnished the purchased test/interpretation is enrolled with Medicare and is in good standing.
- The Office of Inspector General (OIG) maintains a database of information concerning parties that are excluded from participation in the Medicare, Medicaid, or other Federal health programs. The OIG exclusions database is available to the public on the OIG website at the following address:
<http://www.oig.hhs.gov/fraud/exclusions.html>

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/matters/mmarticles/2005/MM3481.pdf>

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm_trans/R341CP.pdf